

## DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY FOR PATENT APPLICATION

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.  
I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

SURFACE TOUGHENING METHOD OF CERAMICS ANDCERAMICS PRODUCTS

, the specification of which:

(check one) ☐ is attached hereto ☒ was filed on 15.10.2003 as United States Application No. or PCT International Application No. PCT/JP03/13178.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose information which is material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR 1.56, including for continuation-in-part applications, material information which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of the continuation-in-part application.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d) or (f), or 365(b) of any foreign application(s) for patent, inventor's certificate or plant breeder's rights certificate(s), or 365(a) of any PCT international application which designated at least one country other than the United States of America, listed below and have also identified below, by checking the box, any foreign application for patent, inventor's or plant breeder's certificate(s), or any PCT international application having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

## Prior Foreign Application(s)

## Priority Claimed

2002/300765  
(NUMBER)

Japan  
(COUNTRY)

15.10.2002 ☒ ☐  
(DAY/MONTH/YEAR FILED) YES NO

\_\_\_\_\_  
(NUMBER)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(COUNTRY)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DAY/MONTH/YEAR FILED) ☐ ☐  
YES NO

\_\_\_\_\_  
(NUMBER)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(COUNTRY)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(DAY/MONTH/YEAR FILED) ☐ ☐  
YES NO

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. 120 of any United States application(s), or 365(c) of any PCT international application(s) designating the United States, listed below:

(APPLICATION SERIAL NO.)

(FILING DATE)

(STATUS)

(PATENTED, PENDING, ABANDONED)

POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the herein listed practitioners associated with Customer Number 35777 to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or document or any patent issuing thereon.

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Additional inventors are named on the \_\_\_\_\_ supplemental sheet(s) attached hereto

I further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine and imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or document or any patent issuing thereon.

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